

Hopkinton Conservation Commission
May 20, 2014 Meeting
Held at Town Hall - 7:00PM

Approved Minutes

Present: Lee Wilder, Ron Klemarczyk, Doug Giles, Cleve Kapala, Jed Merrow, Rob Knight, Erick Leadbeater, and alternate Bob LaPree.

Guest present: Hilary Chapman, NH Audubon Education Specialist

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chairperson Lee Wilder.

OLD BUSINESS

1. NH Audubon re Brockway MOU: The second draft of the MOU was accepted, and Lee Wilder was authorized to sign it on behalf of the HCC. Certificate of Liability dated 4/7/13 was accepted. Signage for the Brockway Preserve was discussed, particularly whether dogs should be allowed. Signage as presented by Hilary Chapman was accepted. Lee will file this material with the office of the Select Board.
2. Minutes of 4/15/14 meeting were approved.
3. Treasurer's report: In April \$275 was paid to NH Association of Conservation Commissions for 2014 dues.
4. Culvert Data and Report: Jed will send it to DES Geologic Survey via Lee.
5. Trail subcommittee: Rob and Cleve reported that a trail from the Greenway to Putney Hill Road has been flagged across the Aqueduct Lot and Luneau property (map attached). The Trails Committee had a good meeting with Dave Luneau and Bill Chapin Jr, both of whom are very enthusiastic about the trail. Ron will check the route this weekend, and once a signed trail agreement is received from the Luneaus the trail can be cut. The Trails Committee will arrange a meeting with the Select Board to inform them of plans for the trail and discuss use of the Class VI road to connect Putney Hill Road to Dolly Road.

Kimball Lake Cabins Study Committee: Lee reports that they met with the Select Board last night. Phase I will be to make Cabin #1 safe and useable, layout a defined parking area, clear the trail to the concrete pier, and have the kiosk installed. The construction trailer has already been removed and a concrete cover will be installed on the well. Nothing has been formalized regarding the ROW across the 70' x 70' lot at Kimball Lake or a gate to control vehicle access.

A location for the kiosk has been identified. The committee would like to have the kiosk up by July 4th. Rob will contact the scout, Grant Kegel, and inform him of the desired installation date. Bob will work on the contents of the kiosk, including working with Heather Mitchell on a history of the cabins and area.

Erick will spearhead an effort to protect the historic horseshoe pile.

Phase II will be to possibly fix up the other cabins, depending on how much public use there is of Cabin #1 and the amount of public support.

6. Boundary markers: Rob intends to start with Brockway and Carson soon.
7. Greenway road crossing at Hopkinton Road: Cleve reports that the potential route around Kimball Lake has been checked and is not currently feasible. Cleve will contact the DOT on locations for the crossing signs.
8. Report from Open Space Committee: Ron reports that the two appraisals are back. The appraisals need to be further studied by the OSC. The OSC will discuss the possible acquisitions with the Select Board. Payment of \$1,200 for the appraisals was approved. Funds will come from the Conservation Fund.
9. Hopkinton Student Conservation Camp: Erick reported that student Leeming will attend the camp.
10. Warner Scenic River initiative: HCC confirmed that we are still in favor of protecting the river.
11. Possible locations for the Hopkinton Community Garden: Not discussed.
12. Beyer Conservation Easement: Rob understands it has been or will be signed very shortly. Rob will check with Neal Cass on the status.
13. Beyer Lot: Ron has not yet received bids for the timber sale and creation of a parking lot.
14. Townes Lot on Hatfield Road timber sale: Ron reports that it has a potential of 82,000 BF and approximately \$12,000. Ron was authorized to put it out to bid and bring the bids in for HCC approval.
15. Culvert installations on New Road, Hawthorne Forest and the erosion control at the Rollins Lot: Ron has a bid from Chuck Rose to do both culverts plus the gravel at New Road for \$1500. The work will be done as soon as it dries out. Work at the entrance to the Ransmeier field will be discussed with the farmer who is using the field.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Bob French: The New Hampshire Tree Farm Committee has named Robert French the 2014 New Hampshire Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. Bob is a past member of the HCC and has protected many acres of property in Hopkinton and surrounding towns. Cleve will draft a letter of congratulations from the HCC.
2. Invasives Control: Erick will continue to try and contact Stacey Luke to find out when the work will be done.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.
Next meeting Tuesday June 17 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Next host is Erick.

Map of possible route for Greenway to Putney Hill Road trail.

